

REMARKS

The indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claims 4-11 and 22 is appreciated.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Rust et al (US 6,223,134). Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as rendered obvious and unpatentable, over Kovacevic (US. Pub. No. 2002/0170039 in view of Madineni et al, (US Pub. No. 2--3/0037180). Claims 1, 2 and 12-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as rendered obvious and unpatentable, over Rust et al. in view of Pike et al. (US 6,993,772). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the following reason(s).


In view of the foregoing amendment each of the foregoing rejections is deemed moot. Claim 3 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 4, and is thus now deemed allowable. Claim 5 now depends from allowable claim 3. Claims 6-11 have been indicated to be allowed already.

Accordingly, since only allowable subject matter remains pending, the rejections should be withdrawn.

The examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application, withdraw the objections and/or rejections and pass the application to issue in view of the above amendments and/or remarks.

Should a Petition for extension of time be required with the filing of this Amendment, the Commissioner is kindly requested to treat this paragraph as such a request and is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 02-4943 of Applicant's undersigned attorney in the amount of the incurred fee if, **and only if**, a petition for extension of time be required **and** a check of the requisite amount is not enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,


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